

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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SEP 16 2004

Technology Center 2100

In re application of

Docket No: Q67079

Mayumi NAGASAKI

Appln. No.: 09/985,865

Group Art Unit: 2151

Confirmation No.: 4481

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: November 06, 2001

For: MULTIMEDIA SIGNAL CODING DEVICE AND METHOD OF CONTROLLING
AMOUNT OF OUTPUT CODE THEREOF

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H07-202820-A, published August 4, 1995 with an English Abstract.
2. International Publication No. WO 00/41483-A2, published July 20, 2000.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Appln. No.: 09/985,865


on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses here with a copy of a corresponding Japanese Office Action dated June 15, 2004 and an English translation of the pertinent portions thereof which cites such documents and indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,


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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: September 14, 2004

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

SEP 14 2004

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/985,865
Confirmation Number	4481
Filing Date	November 06, 2001
First Named Inventor	Mayumi NAGASAKI
Art Unit	2151
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	Q67079

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US			
		US			
		US			
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		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		JP	H07-202820	A	08-04-1995		English Abstract
		WO	00/41483	A2	07-20-2000		No

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.

Remarks (For a list of the cited literature, see the List of Cited Literature.)

Claims: 1-12

Cited Literature: 1 and 2

Remarks

(1) Regarding Claims 1-3, 7, 8, and 11

Cited Literature 1 describes an encoding device that encodes and then multiplexes and transmits a video signal 6 and an audio signal 1, provided with a FIFO buffer 11, which temporarily records said video signal 6 and audio signal 1 after encoding, wherein, based on the total amount of data recorded in said FIFO buffer 11, the amount of encoding of the signal which is the encoded said video signal 6 is controlled. (See, in particular, (Figure 1).)

Given this, since the multiplexing of different signals, including encoded video signals, audio signals, and control information, is well-known, as in, for example, the standards for MPEG systems and the like, the multiplexing of control signals in addition to encoded video signals and audio signals in the invention described in Cited Literature 1 could have been obtained easily by one skilled in the art.

Consequently, the inventions according to Claims 1 and 11 of the present application could have been invented easily based on the inventions described in Cited Literature 1 by one skilled in the art.

Furthermore, regarding Claims 2, 3, 7, and 8, the conversion of parameters used in the device into other parameters that are convenient for use in control, and the use [of said parameters] in the control of said equipment is a customary method, and thus, in the invention described in Cited Literature 1, the conversion of the total amount of data into a parameter related to transmission time and its use in the control of the equipment, is no more than a design issue for one skilled in the art.

(2) Regarding Claims 4-6, 9, 10, and 12

Cited Literature 2 describes an encoding device that encodes and then multiplexes and transmits a video input signal 106 and a speech input signal 114, provided with a multiplexer buffer 121, which temporarily records the multiplexed signal after said video input signal 106 and speech input signal 114 are encoded, wherein, based on the amount of data recorded in said multiplexer buffer 121, the amount of encoding of the signal which is the encoded said video input signal 106 is controlled. (See, in particular, Figure 5.)

Given this, since the multiplexing of multiple different signals, including encoded video signals, audio signals, and control signals, is well-known, as in, for example, the standards for MPEG systems and the like, the multiplexing of control signals in addition to encoded video input signals and audio input signals in the invention described in Cited Literature 2 could have been obtained easily by one skilled in the art.

Consequently, the inventions according to Claims 4 and 12 of the present application could have been invented easily based on the inventions described in Cited Literature 2 by one skilled in the art.

Furthermore, when it comes to Claims 5, 6, 9, and 10, the conversion of parameters used in the device into other parameters that are convenient for use in control, and the use [of said parameters] in the control of said equipment is a customary method, and thus, in the invention described in Cited Literature 2, the conversion of the total amount of data recorded in the multiplexer buffer 121 into a parameter related to transmission time and its use in the control of the equipment is no more than a design issue for one skilled in the art.

List of Cited Literature

1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H7-202820
2. International Publication WO 00/41483 Pamphlet